NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN REVIEW OF CONCENTATED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATION

Introduction

On October 23, 2006, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) received a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit application for a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) from Willemsen Dairy, LLC, in Madison County. The application was submitted to comply with both the NPDES CAFO Permit Rule and the Indiana Confined Feeding Control Law. Notice is hereby given that IDEM is opening a comment period on the draft individual permit and application material.

Application Details

The Willemsen Dairy facility is an existing dairy operation currently operating under a NPDES General permit, confining 1,800 dairy cows in four barns. Plans submitted detail an expansion to the operation, to confine a total of 6,000 cows in seven confinement barns, under an NPDES Individual permit. Each of the proposed confinement barns will have concrete floors. Manure /process wastewater from all the confinement barns will be vacuumed up and delivered to a liquid collection and storage system. The manure/process wastewater from the operation will be directed to either of the two existing concrete manure/process wastewater settling pits, the two existing earthen manure storage lagoons or to either of the proposed concrete manure/ process wastewater settling mixing pit, a manure/process wastewater separator pit, a manure treatment separator building, a solid manure storage area, a solid manure storage dewatering concrete pad and finally to a three-staged compacted clay liner earthen manure/process wastewater storage lagoon. All milking parlor wastewaters will be directed to the manure/process wastewater storage lagoon. The raw materials and feed storage area is designed to collect silage leachate and the storm water up to the 25-year, 24-hour rain event in a compacted clay lined storage pond. Storm water from the dairy operation is handled by the existing storm water detention pond and the proposed earthen storm water detention pond. All manure and process wastewaters will be land applied by the permittee, a contractor under the control of the permittee, or distributed to other persons for land application or converting to compost. The milk chilling process utilizes groundwater and a non-contact cooling device. The non-contact cooling water will be collected for recycling as drinking water or to mist the cows for cooling purposes. Excess non-contact cooling water will be conveyed to the existing and proposed waste storage structures. The facility must be constructed and operated in accordance with the Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation Rule's (327 IAC 5-4-3 and 327 IAC 15-15) and Indiana's Confined Feeding Operation Rule (327 IAC 16).

Public Review and Comment

The draft permit is available for review in the Alexandria-Monroe Public Library, 117 East Church Street, Alexandria Indiana 46001-2005, (765)-724-2196 and IDEM's public file room on the 12th floor of the Indiana Government Center-North, 100 North Senate Avenue, Indianapolis Indiana 46204, during normal working hours. The draft permit is also available on IDEM's agency's web page at: http://www.in.gov/idem/land/permits/notices/index.html.

Comments should be technical comments, which addresses compliance with 327 IAC 5-4-3, 327 IAC 15-15, and 327 IAC 16, which can be viewed at: http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/T03270/A00160.PDF Citizens should be reminded that some issues (odor, potential devalued property, and traffic concerns) are not within IDEM's jurisdiction. Rather, they are local zoning issues. Persons presenting comments are requested to submit one written copy of the comment and submit it to IDEM within 30 days after the publication of this notice to:

Daniel J Bruggen Office of Land Quality 100 North Senate Avenue MC 65-45, IGCN 1154 Indianapolis, IN 46204

Concerns will be summarized and a document will be drafted in which a response will be given for each concern. A copy of the responsiveness summary will be mailed to each person who submits written comment if a complete, legible address is provided to IDEM with the comment.

Further Information

For further information please call Daniel Bruggen (317)-233-3554, Dennis Lasiter (317)-232-8732 or Jerome Rud (317)-232-7200.

bcc: Bruce Palin- Assistant Commissioner, Office of Land Quality

Charles Grady- Chief, Agricultural and Solid Waste Compliance (Shadeland Office) Stu Miller- IDEM Agricultural and Solid Waste Compliance (Shadeland Office) Randy Jones- IDEM Agricultural and Solid Waste Compliance (Shadeland Office) Daniel Bruggen- IDEM Solid Waste Permits Section Ryan Westerfeld- Commissioners Office Amy Hartsock- MACS Karen Purtell- Office of Land Quality (Transmit Electronically)